

able to speak for themselves and will be responsible for their own actions.

Many of us in this Congress have concerns about local law enforcement and protection of fundamental human rights in the Northern Marianas and there is no intention to lessen the commitment in these areas. At the same time, we can also see that the society and economy of the islands have flourished as part of the United States. We should have a Delegate, elected by the people of the Northern Marianas, here in Congress, to whom other Members can go to answer our concerns. We should have a Delegate here who can legitimately advise Congress of what Federal actions are appropriate and necessary in the Northern Marianas.

In introducing this bill today, I want to remind Members of the special circumstances under which the Northern Marianas became a part of the United States after World War II. The Marianas were one of four Micronesian archipelagoes in the United Nations Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands administered by the United States. The other three areas voted in self-determination referenda to become separate sovereigns in free association, with separate nationality and citizenship. However, unlike the other areas, the people of the Northern Marianas chose to be part of the American political family. In 1975, they did so by an overwhelming vote of 79 percent approving a Covenant of political union negotiated by their representatives and representatives of Presidents Nixon and Ford. In 1976, Congress approved that Covenant with Public Law 94-241.

Despite this birth by democratic self-determination and having gained U.S. citizenship on November 3, 1986, the people of the Northern Marianas have never had representation here in the House of Representatives. In 1985, a Commission appointed by President Reagan and including Congressman Robert J. Lagomarsino, long an expert on insular affairs in this House, recommended a Northern Marianas Delegate. His predecessor on the Commission, former Congressman Phillip Burton, was another advocate of the U.S.-Marianas relationship, and supported eventual representation for the islands.

The Northern Marianas Legislature has three times in the last 6 years petitioned Congress for a Delegate. The speaker of the NMI Legislature, Diego T. Benavente, recently appeared before a congressional hearing I conducted which addressed this issue, and affirmed that the NMI is prepared to enact the necessary implementing legislation for the election of a Delegate. The elected official who represents the islands here, Resident Representative Juan N. Babauta, has untiringly sought the voice in Congress his people want.

Today, I am responding to the Commission's recommendation, the clear desire of the people of the Northern Marianas, and to my own sense of what is right. I hope that the House of Representatives and the Senate will act on this legislation in this session, so that the new Americans of the Northern Mariana Islands can cast their votes for the election of a Delegate to Congress on their 10th anniversary of U.S. citizenship. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Northern Mariana Islands Delegate Act. Following is the text of the legislation.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Northern Mariana Islands Delegate Act".

SEC. 2. DELEGATE TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

The Joint Resolution entitled "Joint Resolution to approve the 'Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America', and for other purposes" approved March 24, 1976 (48 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 6. DELEGATE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Northern Mariana Islands shall be represented in the United States Congress by a nonvoting Delegate to the House of Representatives. The Resident Representative of the Northern Mariana Islands, as authorized by section 901 of the foregoing Covenant and upon election pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, after the date of the enactment of this section, shall be the Delegate.

"(b) COMPENSATION, PRIVILEGES, AND IMMUNITIES.—Until the Rules of the House of Representatives are amended to provide otherwise, the Delegate from the Northern Mariana Islands shall receive the same compensation, allowances, and benefits as a Member of the House of Representatives and shall be entitled to whatever privileges and immunities are, or hereafter may be, granted to the Delegate from Guam to the House of Representatives.

"(c) ELECTION OF DELEGATE.—The Delegate from the Northern Mariana Islands shall be elected, but not appointed, as authorized by section 901 of the foregoing Covenant and the Constitution and laws of the Northern Mariana Islands so long as such authorization complies with the Federal election criteria for, and provides for elections in sequence with, the election of other Delegates to the House of Representatives.

"(d) VACANCY.—In case of a permanent vacancy in the office of Delegate, by reason of death, resignation, or permanent disability, the office of Delegate shall remain vacant until a successor is elected and qualified.

"(e) LACK OF EFFECT ON COVENANT.—This section shall not be construed to alter, amend, or abrogate any provision, other than section 901, of the foregoing Covenant."

RECOGNIZING MEMBERS OF THE NEWS MEDIA

HON. JAY KIM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of several members of the news media in my district. I have the distinct advantage of representing a district of California that is served by reporters who not only respect a difference of opinion, but who feel an obligation to make their readers aware of both sides of an issue.

Recently, several of these journalists, and the newspaper for which they write, were recognized for their uncompromised integrity and journalistic ability, something that far too frequently goes unrecognized in today's tabloid,

sensational news environment. Gannett newspapers has chosen to recognize the best of its organization and I would like to second their selection of Mr. Arnold Garson and the San Bernardino County Sun as being the Best of Gannett in 1995.

The Sun took a gold medal for outstanding achievement and news performance, while Mr. Garson was honored as one of the Editors of the Year. In addition, reporters Michael Diamond, M.S. Enkoji, Cassie MacDuff, Mark Muckenfuss, John Whitehair, and Mark Zaleski were all recognized for excellence in news reporting. As a public figure, and I'm sure many of my colleagues in Congress would agree, I do not readily give praise to members of the press, but having read the Sun for these many years, I can say that the Sun has maintained the type of professionalism and commitment to accurate news reporting that make it deserving of these awards.

DEPARTURE OF LINCOLN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT WENDELL RAYBURN

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute Wendell Rayburn, president of Lincoln University, who will be leaving after 8½ years of service. A leader in education in our State, President Rayburn has also been active in the community of Jefferson City. His most important achievement has been his commitment to greater stress on scholarship and academics. President Rayburn successfully led Lincoln University from its budget deficit and put it on a solid fiscal basis.

Further, his leadership led to new construction and higher level of maintenance. Dormitories were renovated and a new library was completed. Also he introduced new technology into the classroom. Wendell Rayburn's leadership and commitment to excellence will be missed.

WASHINGTON WONDERLAND

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, the eloquence and penetrating logic of the Taxpayers Unions' Sid Taylor graces the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD once again.

MONEY, SYSTEMS AND YOUR HEALTH

(By Sid Taylor)

About 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ chased the money changers out of the Temple. Today, they're back.

This time, and in our Space Age temple of finance and fiscal systems, the money changers have computers, satellite communications networks and instant money transfer. With a national debt now around \$5.5 trillion—I have the feeling that our American temple of democracy is about to experience Fiscal Shock.

Our American capitalistic system is now running on "funny money". A government can do this for so long and then the law of